

**Assessment of Program Effectiveness
City of Pasadena FY 2010-11**

I. Monitoring

Briefly describe any storm water monitoring activities that are not required by Order No. 01-182 that your municipality conducted, participated in, or received funding to conduct in the past fiscal year. These activities should correspond with the dollar amount you listed in Table 2.

Los Angeles River Metals TMDLs-The City of Pasadena is a member of the Coordinated Monitoring Plan (CMP) Technical Committee (TC). The CMP is a requirement of the LA River Metals TMDL as adopted. The deadline for the submittal of the CMP was met and the Plan was submitted to the Regional Board on behalf of the responsible agencies. This committee has been meeting regularly. The TC had been reporting their activities to the responsible agencies. The monitoring began in October 2008 and is ongoing.

II. Assessment of Program Effectiveness

A. Attach a summary of the effectiveness of your storm water management program. This summary should include, at a minimum, the following:

1. An assessment of your agency's compliance with permit requirements, based on your responses to the questions in this form;

The ongoing review and assessment of the policies and procedures has enabled the City to better understand and subsequently better implement the Permit requirements.

The City of Pasadena elects to be an environmental advocate and a leader in environmental compliance and protection. The City has cultivated superior environmental standards that will provide for sustainable municipal development.

The City believes that the protection of the urban and natural environments is a social responsibility and a fundamental obligation, and that an ecologically impoverished and polluted environment adversely impacts human health.

The City is striving to become a model for environmental excellence and a prevailing force in environmental protection. To accomplish these goals, the City has established policies that will incorporate environmental responsibility into its daily management of urban and industrial growth, education, energy and water use, air quality, transportation, waste reduction, economic development, and open space and natural habitats.

2. Descriptions of any evaluation methods that your agency uses to determine the effectiveness of your storm water management program;

The evaluation of this program has been mostly through the interaction methods with the public, business community, and the staff. The

effectiveness of the program has been observed by the increase in public awareness, business knowledge, and staff conscientiousness

3. A summary of the strengths and weaknesses of your agency's storm water management program;

The strength of the program is the tremendous effort by the City staff to ensure compliance. The City believes in implementing the program with its limited resources to the best of its abilities. Constructive criticisms and positive efforts towards the program enhancements are also considered to be of the strengths of the City staff.

The weakness of the program is the increasing cost to the City as additional requirements continue to be imposed. So far, the city has been able to meet the minimum requirements, but unless additional funding can be obtained, future compliance may be difficult.

4. A list of specific program highlights and accomplishments;

- **Green City Program**-The City has taken a number of significant actions to become a green city. Recent examples include:

Adoption of an Environmental Charter
Endorsement of the United Nations Green Cities Declaration and Urban Environmental Accords
Endorsement of the US Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement
Adoption of a Green City Action Plan
Adoption of ordinance creating an Environmental Advisory Commission
Adoption of a Green Building Program
Adoption of a resolution in support of Green Cities California

- **Plastic Bag Ban**-The City of Pasadena encouraged Pasadena residents and business representatives to provide input on a draft ordinance on plastic carryout bags. At a special meeting, city staff presented a report on a draft ordinance to the Environmental Advisory Commission that would have banned plastic carryout bags, impose a ten cent charge on paper carryout bags, and require affected stores to provide reusable bags to customers for sale or at no charge. The stores that would be affected by the ordinance would include supermarkets, grocers, retailers with at least 10,000 square feet of retail space and a licensed pharmacy, as well as farmer's markets, drug stores, pharmacies, convenience food stores, food marts, and liquor stores. In partnership with the business community, Pasadena is committed to forging policies in support of increased environmental stewardship, identifies the development of a plastic bag reduction program to support its goal of achieving zero waste to landfills by 2040.

- **LA River Metals TMDLs**-City is a member of the LA River Metals Coordinated Monitoring Plan (CMP) Technical Committee (TC). The TC has also been proactively working on development of the Implementation Plan. The MOA that consisted of the scope of work and cost associated with hiring a consultant to assist the group with this requirement was finalized and adopted by several responsible agencies. The consultant (CDM) was hired and directed by the TC to

start developing the Plan for the group cities. A draft Plan was submitted to the RWQCB in January 2010 as required by the TMDLs. The RWQCB completed their review of the draft Plan and prepared a letter of comments. The plan was finalized for submittal of the Oct 2010 deadline.

- **LA River Trash TMDLs**-The City has also been involved with the four cities' program proposing to implement the Trash TMDL. With the Full Capture Certification from the Regional Board, the city has proceeded with purchasing the materials needed in order to move forward with the implementation of the proposed Plan. Total of 331 Catch Basin inserts and approximately 502 feet of curb screens have been installed in order to comply with the deadlines. Since these devices were installed prior to rainy season, they have demonstrated to be very effective in capturing trash. This efficiency was more apparent since the City had to elevate its maintenance program with an increase in its catch basin cleaning frequency. Additional inserts are being installed in the City's catch basins during summer 2011.



- **Capital Improvement Infiltration Project**-The City has been incorporating BMPs into the capital improvement projects when feasible and to comply with the SUSMP requirements. One example is the BMP that was installed at the Robinson Park Expansion project, where an approximately 350-foot long infiltration trench with clean stone and perforated pipe was constructed.



- **SUSMP Project Example**- A commercial development with a seepage pit filled with gravel that overflows into the gutter. The concrete squares are cast around a grid of steel cables that connect them. The cables between the blocks are covered with gravel.



- **Trash Receptacles**- Total of 22 new trash receptacles were installed in addition to the 63 that were previously installed.
- **Water Shortage Procedures Ordinance** -Effective July 4, 2009, specific instances of wasting water are permanently prohibited, whether or not a water shortage exists.
[http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/waterandpower/watershortage/#"Water_Shortage_Level"](http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/waterandpower/watershortage/#)

The following is a summary of a few key components in the Water Shortage Procedures Ordinance effective July 4, 2009 which can help reduce urban runoff.

- No watering outdoors between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., except with a hand-held container or hose with a shut-off nozzle, or for very short periods when adjusting a sprinkler system;
- No watering during periods of rain;
- No excessive water flow or runoff onto pavement, gutters or ditches from watering or irrigating landscapes or vegetation of any kind;
- No washing down paved surfaces unless for safety or sanitation, in which case a bucket, a hose with a shut-off nozzle, a cleaning machine that recycles water or a low-volume/high-pressure water broom must be used;
- All property owners must fix leaks, breaks or malfunctions when they find them, or within seven days of receiving a notice from PWP;
- Fountains and water features must have a re-circulating water system;
- Vehicles must be washed with a hand-held bucket and/or hose equipped with a water shut-off nozzle (does not apply to commercial car washes);
- No installation of non-recirculating water systems at new commercial car washes and laundry systems. Effective July 1, 2010, all commercial car washes must have a re-circulating water system or secure a city waiver.

- No installation of “single pass cooling systems” in buildings requesting new water service.
- **Rain Harvesting for non-potable applications**-City has sponsored this program in a joint effort with Cities of Los Angeles and Santa Monica to hold a workshop to educate the public.

Other ongoing programs:

- Catch basins are temporarily blocked during events, such as the Rose Parade, where there is an elevated risk of excessive trash entering the storm drains.
- The City has established a separate Hotline for reporting illicit discharge. The number is 626-744-STRM
- The City has implemented a very strict program for all hillside development in an attempt to further reduce hillside erosion from entering the storm drains.

5. A description of water quality improvements or degradation in your watershed over the past fiscal year;

The City does not assess water quality for the watershed. Water quality monitoring is performed by the County of Los Angeles. In addition, per the LA River’s Metals TMDL CMP, the monitoring of the LA River main channel started in October 2008. This data has been submitted to the RWQCB. Any improvements or degradations in the watershed can be assessed as part of the compliance requirements. The Implementation Plan that was developed in 2010 will address such issues.

6. Interagency coordination between cities to improve the storm water management program;

The City of Pasadena is a member of the LA River Metals Coordinated Monitoring Plan (CMP) Technical Committee (TC). The TC has also been proactively working on development of the Implementation Plan. The MOA that consisted of the scope of work and cost associated with hiring a consultant to assist the group with this requirement was finalized and adopted by several responsible agencies. The consultant (CDM) was hired and directed by the TC to start developing the Plan for the group cities. A draft Plan was submitted to the RWQCB in January 2010 as required by the TMDLs. The RWQCB completed their review of the draft Plan and prepared a letter of comments. The Plan was finalized for submittal of the Oct 2010 deadline.

The city also meets bi-monthly with three neighboring cities where the staff discusses the NPDES issues as a regular item.

In addition, the City attends various watershed meetings and regional workshops to discuss NPDES and TMDLs related issues.

7. Future plans to improve your agency's storm water management program

TMDLs and their inclusions in the future permit maybe the most important issue and very challenging to address in the City’s future plan. The storm water management program is continuously evaluated and

improvements are made as needed. Policies and procedures may have to be revised in order to meet the upcoming Permit deadlines.

8. Suggestions to improve the effectiveness of your program or the County model programs.

It would be helpful to have more cooperation and coordination with the County.

- B. On a scale of 1 to 10 (10 being full implementation of requirements by their deadlines), rate your municipality's level of compliance with Order No. 01-182.

The City, to the Maximum Extent Practicable, has implemented the requirements to the best level of its abilities. Because of the highly subjective nature of the definition for "a full Implementation", given the circumstances, limited funds and challenges that staff faces through the year, City would give itself a 10 for its efforts.

- C. List any suggestions your agency has for improving program reporting and assessment.

It is suggested that irrelevant questions need to be eliminated from the forms, and that tasks that are not required by the Permit also be eliminated as they may be difficult to report on.
